

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CU-02 AID-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AGRE-00 SCA-01 IGA-02
COME-00 /084 W

-----071934Z 085462 /50

O R 071421Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5468

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0119

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, EAID, MZ, US

SUBJECT: SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICAN REFUGEES

REF: (A) MAPUTO 099 (B) STATE 17570

1. ACTING UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE SERGIO DE MELO HAS
FURNISHED EMBASSY WITH FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DATA ON
REFUGEE SITUATION IN MOZAMBIQUE.

A. ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES. UNHCR OFFICE CALCULATE THAT
IN CY 1976 THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE (GPRM) PRO-
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VIDED EQUIVALENT OF OVER \$950,000 IN FOOD TO ZIMBABWEAN
REFUGEES. UNHCR ITSELF SPENT \$157,000 AND WORLD FOOD
PROGRAM OVER \$1.6 MILLION. GPRM IS SPENDING ABOUT
\$95,000 YEARLY ON SALARIES OF OFFICIALS WORKING ON
REFUGEE MATTERS. UNHCR HAS CONTRIBUTED \$20,000 FOR
SALARIES.

B. REFUGEES FROM SOUTH AFRICA. NUMBER IN MOZAMBIQUE

HOVERS AROUND 60. APPROXIMATELY 15 TO 20 YOUNGSTERS ARRIVE EACH WEEK, BUT EQUAL NUMBER ALSO DEPART, USUALLY FOR TANZANIA. SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEES ARE MOSTLY MALES, MOSTLY IN 18 TO 30 AGE BRACKET. DE MELO SAYS HE HAS ADVISED UNHCR GENEVA THAT LARGER INFLUX OF REFUGEES FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO MOZAMBIQUE CANNOT BE DISCOUNTED.

2. SOME DATA ON MALAZAIN REGUGEES (MOSTLY JEHOVAH'S WETNESSES) WAS TRANSMITTED BY DE MELO TO GENEVA END OF LAST WEEK.

3. COMMENT: THE MORE TIME EMBASSY HAS HAD TO THINK ABOUT REFUGEE PROBLEM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE MORE CONVINCED WE ARE THAT USG SHOULD DO FAR MORE FOR THESE REFUGEES THAN THE \$1 MILLION THUS FAR OFFERED TO UNHCR. REFUGEE AID IS ONE OF MOST TANGIBLE, AND LEAST CONTROVERSIAL WAYS THAT USG CAN DEMONSTRATE ITS INTEREST IN THIS PART OF WORLD AND ITS SUPPORT FOR MAJORITY RULE. BELIEVE GOOD CASE COULD BE MADE FOR PICKING UP MOST OF THE TAB ON REFUGEE AID, AND TO BE SEEN TO BE DOING SO. THE HUMANITARIAN NEED IS OBVIOUS, THE COST RELATIVELY SMALL, AND THE POLITICAL PAYOFF SIGNIFICANT. DE PREE

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Message Attributes

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